REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-6 and 8-9 are currently pending in this application. A Request for Continued Examination and the required fee have been included with this Amendment so that the Examiner may fully consider the amendments to the claims and the following Remarks.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of safe receipt of the certified copy of the corresponding Japanese patent application (JP 2002-249192, filed in Japan on August 28, 2002).

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6 and 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanajima et al., US Patent Publication No. 2002/0008691, (hereafter "Hanajima") in view of Shahoian et al., US Patent No. 6,822,635, (hereafter "Shahoian"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, and request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections for the following reasons.

Hanajima discloses that when a sensor detects a weak pressure on a touch panel, an icon is displayed in a high-lighted display mode. Then, when the sensor detects a higher pressure, the application corresponding to the icon is executed.

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However, Hanajima does not also teach that in response to the detection of the second (higher) pressure the display screen is moved in the direction of the pushing pressure while also executing a predetermined processing assigned to the touched location on the input surface.

Shahoian is cited as teaching this shortcoming of Hanajima. However, the cited portions of Shahoian are directed to a touch pad 450, as illustrated in FIG. 18, such as for use for moving a cursor on a laptop. The touchpad 450 can be provided with different control regions that provide separate input from the main cursor control region (see col. 33, lines 29-31). However, this embodiment of Shahoian is directed to a touchpad, rather than a display screen provided with a touch panel, as set forth in the claims of the present application. Shahoian's touchpad 450 is disposed separately from the display screen as shown in FIG. 1 of Shahoian. Accordingly, Shahoian fails to teach a display unit provided with a touch panel disposed on a display screen wherein, in response to sensing of a certain pushing pressure P (P2<P) on the touch panel screen, the display screen and touch panel are moved in the direction of pushing pressure and a predetermined processing (a second processing) is executed. Further, Shahoian fails to teach a moving means for moving the display screen and touch panel in a direction of the pushing pressure on the display screen, as also required by Applicants' claims, in response to the pushing pressure, and which indicates that the second processing is being carried out. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 8 are allowable over the combination of Hanajima and Shahoian.

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The remaining claims depend from these claims, are directed to additional patentable features of the invention, and are allowable at least because they depend from an allowable base claim.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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